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27 SEP 1965

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence Programs Evaluation

**SUBJECT:** BOB Request for a Survey on Photographic Interpretation Facilities

1. We understand that you are taking the lead for CIA in responding to the BOB request for a survey on photographic interpretation facilities. It seems to me that DD/S&T can be helpful to you in several ways.

2. The BOB letter mentions "research and development directed toward improving and automating imagery interpretation," and this is an area of collaboration between NPIC and ORD. The "evaluation of future requirements for facilities and equipment" is closely related to the R&D program.

3. We have a second interest in this study relating to our operational responsibilities. As you know, processing and photo interpretation are often accomplished in the same facility, and the recent OPIC study has tended to lump the two functions. We control the primary processing facility at Eastman-Kodak [redacted] which clearly provides the superior service. However, we find ourselves under substantial pressure to utilize overseas processing facilities, [redacted] for our U-2 film. We are unwilling to be so constrained and would hope that your evaluation will be careful to distinguish between processing and interpretation.

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4. We have another operational interest which is directly related to photo-interpretation. As you know, we try to plan overflight mission routes so as to avoid known SAM sites. Our primary source of such information is previous overhead photography. We have lost at least one U-2 because of inadequate photo interpretation of existing photography. Furthermore, a serious problem was

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created [ ] by the inability of [ ]  
(where processing and photo interpretation are combined)  
to find a SAM site [ ]

[ ] Our objective is not  
to criticize particular centers, but rather to ensure that  
we have timely and reliable PI feedback to OSA operations.

5. Since these interests cut across several offices  
in DD/S&T, I have asked [ ] to represent  
our total interest in this survey and he will be available  
to help you as you need him.

**ALBERT D. WHEELON**  
Deputy Director  
for  
Science and Technology

cc: DDCI  
Exec. Dir.  
DD/I  
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